

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method of random access by a user to a shared resource according to a protocol of the ALOHA type in which certain time ranges of access to the shared resource have been the object of a prior booking, comprising:

temporarily modifying, when the instant of transmission of a data packet by the user being supplied by at least one first random variable would result in a breach of the booking, ~~in which certain time ranges of access to the resource have been the object of a prior booking,~~ characterised in that said at least one first random variable is ~~temporarily modified~~ into a modified second random variable including of the a same mean and greater variance as the at least one first random variable ~~when transmission at said instant would result in a breach of the booking.~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method of random access according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ a booking breach is established when the instant of transmission ~~transmission instant~~ of the data packet falls within a booked time range.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method of random access according to claim 2, wherein the ~~characterised in that~~ a booking breach is also established when ~~[[the]]~~ an acknowledgement of the data packet is expected within a booked time range.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method of random access according to claim 2 ~~or 3,~~ wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the ALOHA protocol is a discrete ALOHA protocol and the booked time ranges are transmission intervals.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method of random access according to ~~one of claims claim 1 to 4, wherein characterised in that a~~ the first random variable supplies a first transmission instant ( $T_{\text{transmit}}$ ) and ~~that~~ the first random variable is temporarily modified into ~~[[a]]~~ the modified second random variable of the same mean and greater variance when transmission at the first transmission instant would result in a breach of the prior booking.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method of random access according to claim 5, ~~wherein characterised in that the step of~~ modifying the first random variable ~~consists in~~ comprises adding ~~to it~~ a balanced random variable to the first random variable.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method of random access according to claim 6, ~~wherein characterised in that, if the~~ transmission instant supplied by the first random variable as modified is in breach of the prior booking, the ~~step of~~ adding the balanced random variable is iterated until the transmission instant supplied by the first random variable is compatible with the prior booking.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method of random access according to ~~one of claims claim 5 to 7, wherein characterised in that a~~ the modified second random variable ( $T_{\text{Retransmit}}$ ) supplies a second transmission instant if the packet transmitted at the first instant is in a collision and the modified second random variable is temporarily modified into a modified third random variable of the same mean and greater variance as the at least one first random variable when transmission at the second transmission instant would result in a breach of the prior booking.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method of random access according to claim 8, ~~wherein characterised in that the step of modifying the~~ modified second random variable ~~consists in~~ comprises adding ~~to it~~ a balanced random variable to the modified second random variable.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method of random access according to claim 9, ~~characterised in that,~~ wherein if the transmission instant supplied by the modified second random variable as modified is in breach of the prior booking, the ~~step of~~ adding the balanced random variable is iterated until the transmission instant supplied by the modified second random variable is compatible with the prior booking.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method of random access according to Claim 1 ~~one of the preceding claims,~~ characterised in that wherein the user carries out a measurement in at least one of the booked time ranges, ~~for example, reserved for parameter measurement on the network or other access networks.~~

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): ~~Method~~ A method of random access according to Claim 1 ~~one of the preceding claims,~~ characterised in that wherein the user is a mobile station.